

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on July 12, 2006.

Claims 1, 6, 9, 27 and 32 are amended. Claims 10-26 were previously canceled. Claims 1-9 and 27-37 are pending in this application.

§102 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-6, 27 and 35 were rejected under 35 USC § 102(c) as being anticipated by Chason et al. (U.S. 2004/0118599). The Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection and requests the Office to consider the following.

“A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference.” (*Verdegaal Bros. v. Union Oil Co. of California*, 814 F.2d 628, 631, 2 USPQ2d 1051, 1053 (Fed. Cir. 1987), M.P.E.P. §2131, 8th Ed., Rev. 4).

Claim 1 as amended includes some limitations taken from claim 6. Chason teaches screening (FIG. 5 and supporting text). Applicant’s process includes ejecting a substantially continuous polymer mass upon a substrate. Because screening cannot be characterized as ejecting, Chason’s teaching does not teach or suggest ejecting as disclosed, taught, and claimed by Applicant. The Office Action fails to suggest how “Chason et al *would* include ejecting” (Office Action at page 7, emphasis added). Rather, the Office Action merely repeats some of the language of claim 6 as amended into claim 1. Chason therefore did not anticipate claim 6 as originally filed. Consequently, Chason therefore does not anticipate claim 1 as amended. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 2-9 depend from claim 1 and are therefore also not anticipated by Chason.

Claim 27 is also amended similarly to claim 1. Withdrawal of the rejections is respectfully requested.

§103 Rejection of the Claims

Claim 9 was rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chason et al. in view of Qi et al. (U.S. 6,774,497). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests the Office to consider the following.

To establish a prima facie case of obviousness, three basic criteria must be met. First, there must be some suggestion or motivation, either in the references themselves or in the knowledge generally available to one of ordinary skill in the art, to modify the reference or to combine reference teachings. Second, there must be a reasonable expectation of success. Finally, the prior art reference (or references when combined) must teach or suggest all the claim limitations. The teaching or suggestion to make the claimed combination and the reasonable expectation of success must both be found in the prior art, and not based on applicant's disclosure. In re Vaeck, 947 F.2d 488, 20 USPQ2d 1438 (Fed. Cir. 1991). (M.P.E.P. § 2143 8th Ed, Rev.4).

The Office Action admits that "Chason does not expressly teach said depth range from about 5 percent the first height of the electrical bump to about 95 percent the first height of the electrical first bump." (Office Action at page 9). But Qi does nothing to remedy the deficiencies of Chason in claim 1 from which claim 9 depends. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 31 was also rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chason et al. in view of Tawata et al. (U.S. 5,570,506). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests the Office to consider the following.

The Office Action admits that "Chason does not expressly teach using polybenzothiazole prepolymer for forming stress-relief layer." (Office Action at page 9). But Tawata also does nothing to remedy the deficiencies of Chason in claim 27 from which claim 31 depends. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 32-34 were also rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chason et al. in view of Danvir et al. (U.S. 6,821,878). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests the Office to consider the following.

The Office Action admits that "Chason does not expressly teach mating the electrical first bump through a pre-applied solder flux spot on a board." (Office Action at page 10). But Danvir also does nothing to remedy the deficiencies of Chason in claim 32 as amended. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 36-37 were also rejected under 35 USC § 103(a) as being unpatentable over Chason et al. in view of Vanfleteren et al. (U.S. 6,555,414). Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection and requests the Office to consider the following.

The Office Action admits that Chason does not expressly teach “forming the polymer stress layer in a spiral/serpentine pattern.” (Office Action at page 11). But Vanfleteren et al. also does nothing to teach the limitation of “peripheral ring polymer stress relief layer” in claim 36. Withdrawal of the rejection is respectfully requested.

§112 Rejection of the Claims

Claims 1-6, 9, 27 and 31-37 were rejected under 35 USC § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which Applicant regards as the invention. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejections and requests the Office to consider the following.

Regarding claim 1, the phrase “the lower surface” can have only reference to the same and only “lower surface” found in the same claim element. Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Further regarding claim 1, the phrase “the stress relief layer” can have only reference to the same and only “stress relief layer” found in the previous claim element. As the claim has only two stanzas, Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Regarding claim 2, the phrase “the stress relief layer” can have only reference to the same and identical “the stress relief layer” of claim 1. Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Regarding claim 3, the phrase “dispensing a polymer” can have only reference to the same and identical “dispensing a polymer” of claim 1. Applicant respectfully considers the

suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Regarding claim 6, the phrase “the lower surface” can have only reference to the same and only “the lower surface” of claim 1. Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Claim 9 has been amended for other reasons. Regarding claim 9, the Office Action states it “is not clear what is being dispensed” The term “dispensing” can have only reference to the same and only “dispensing” found in the same line, only seven words back. Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Regarding claim 27, the rejection of “the lower surface” has been addressed above, and Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter.

Further regarding claim 27, Applicant cannot find the phrase “the stress-relief surface” in claim 9.

Regarding claim 31, the phrase “the prepolymer” can have only reference to the same and only “prepolymer” found at the immediate previous occurrence of “polymer”. Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests withdrawal of the rejection.

Regarding claim 32, the rejection of “the lower surface” has been addressed above, and Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter.

Regarding claim 33, the rejection of “heating the prepolymer to a temperature above the glass-transition temperature thereof”, Applicant respectfully thanks the Office for the punctilious examination of the claims, but considers that the statement it “is not clear where ‘the prepolymer’ comes from” to be disingenuous.

Regarding claim 35, the rejection of “the lower surface” has been addressed above, and Applicant respectfully considers the suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claim particularly points out the claimed subject matter.

Because each and every rejection by the Office resulted in a single suggestion to amend, and not multiple contrary or contradictory suggestions that would have demonstrated genuine confusion by the Examiner, and because Applicant considers each and every suggestion by the Office to amend was offered in only a single way that seems clear on its face, Applicant respectfully considers each and every single-facet suggestion by the Office to amend, as proof that the claims particularly points out the claimed subject matter.

Conclusion

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant’s attorney ((801) 278-9171) to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or credit overpayment to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

Respectfully submitted,

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